



Contributed photo

Tanja Gibson, A child care provider, watches over Max Knuckles, a child she provides care for while his parents are at work. Gibson was one of the many providers who were recognized with a rose and a thank-you from Community Youth Services

Community says thanks

National Provider Appreciation Day was May 10 and Baumholder's Community Youth Services encouraged all parents to show their appreciation to their child care providers by taking a moment to just say thank-you for all that they do throughout the year.

Hildegard Bragg, family child care director and Jeanne Pratt, FCC training and curriculum specialist, visited every FCC home within the 222nd Base Support Battalion to say thank-you.

"We handed each provider a carnation and said thank-you for their dedication, effort and support to the children and parents of the 222nd BSB," said Bragg. "Without them parents could not fulfill their military mission.

"Our providers put in long hours when soldiers are in the field preparing for military missions and their spouses have to work long hours.

Providers are also a tremendous help to single soldier parents.

Today's child care providers are the world's unsung heroes. The child care profession is one of the most underpaid occupations in the country; yet early childhood is the most critical developmental period for all children.

It takes a special person to work in this field and their contributions to the quality of family life frequently goes unnoticed — until now.

It takes a dedicated person to be successful in the demanding world of today's child care professional. Provider Appreciation Day offered a unique opportunity to recognize and commend the unselfish dedication, compassion and strong family values that child care providers demonstrate every day.

"Baumholder Community Youth Services says thank-you for a job well done," she said.

Spotlight on workforce

Customer satisfaction is priority

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
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For Armin Henn, training support center supervisor, customer satisfaction and harmonious worker and supervisor relations are paramount in helping to meet the needs of the customer. "I like to work with customers, I like to talk to people. My biggest challenge is customer satisfaction. It can't always happen but if people are happy and say okay you did a good job, then I'm satisfied."

When it comes to worker relations, Henn's door is always open. "We try to talk about things that need to be done. I always have an open door so if somebody has problems with their work, or even a family problem, I always try to find a solution." Henn feels he can get the best results out of workers by helping them work through their problems. The end result being that the worker can concentrate on his job and most importantly that he still likes his work. "We always have problems," admits Armin. "Nobody can tell me they don't have any problems at all. I think the most important thing, though, is to talk things through before they escalate," he said.

"If I make a mistake," he adds, "and a worker comes to me I'll say, okay, I might have been wrong, or I saw things the wrong way. They know they can talk to me."

As far as accomplishing the mission, Henn says "I don't care how they do their job, as long as nobody gets hurt. The important thing is that our customers are satisfied. They also know they can always come and talk to me if they believe they have a better way of accomplishing their work

"I would never be a person to say, we do it this way because I said so. That's not my style. Of course there are some regulations that we must follow so sometimes things have to be done a specific way, whether we like it or not."

Henn started working for the U.S. Army in December 1981. "I've always worked for TSD, never changed, just stepped up a little bit," he said. He began his career with the Army as a supply clerk and after a year and a half he moved to the lead supply clerk position. In 1987 he took over the supervisory position he holds now.

During his tenure, the training support center has been somewhat of a nomadic organization. "We had to move four times with all of our



Armin Henn

equipment. We finally got this new building and I said 'Okay I hope we can stay here for a while because it's not fun moving all of our equipment from one place to another,'" he said.

"We started in the basement of Building 8312, behind the gym where the education center is now. We took photos in the hallway and every morning we had to set up the cameras and other photo equipment and put a screen up, just a regular screen, no photo screen. Every evening we had to put everything away and in the morning we had to set it up again," he said.

Despite numerous relocations and the inconvenience associated with having to uproot a complete organization Henn says he really likes his job. "I've never tried to go somewhere else. You see, we're in the supply field and it's hard to make a career of it. The supply field just doesn't offer too much. If you're looking only for money or your career you go either to housing or to DPW." He explained, though, that because of the drawdown "You can forget all that nowadays. In older days (had he started working elsewhere) I might have a C7 position or so by now. But I like the people I'm working with. I like what I'm doing. So I'm saying, so what if you have a few dollars more and you don't like your work, and you hate to go to work every day. That's not what I'm looking for.

"I really like this job," he added. "We have a good relation between the workers in house and I hope that our customers are also satisfied."

The training support center is a classic example of a customer service oriented organization and that's where Henn places much of his emphasis, on communicating with and satisfying the customer.

"The best thing I like is that I can work with customers. It's not a strict job where you sit eight hours a day at your desk. You work in the ware-

house and then very often you have to go to Frankfurt to pick up new equipment and to turn in excess equipment or broken equipment. You have to go to firms to get photo or other material. So it's a lot of contact. What I don't like is to sit eight hours a day behind a desk, not move anywhere or so. So that's what I really like here," he said.

Henn, who lives in Föhren-linden, about 5 kilometers from, Baumholder where he was born, admits that because of the language and cultural differences between Germans and Americans, working with customers can get interesting at times. "There was never a communication problem, though," he said. "Even today, I don't always find the right words, but I find a way to explain myself." In a lighthearted tone he added, "For us here it's very hard sometimes just to stay up with military terms because soldiers have a different language. They come here and they have their own terminology for what they are looking for and then we have to find out what the official nomenclature is. So we have to find out first, what they are asking for exactly or how it is spelled in our catalog. For example they always come looking for the 'monster eye' or 'big eye' and then we say, okay, they want to have a multi-media projector. But those are the things you learn. That's what makes it interesting."

To satisfy his customers even more he added that sometimes he would like to have earlier notice about customer requirements and cut back on last minute jobs. "That really hurts us sometimes but I guess in soldier work we have to adapt to that. Sometimes we would also like to have more money to buy newer equipment. We are working on that and we're getting better. Since last year I would have to say, we are a little bit better off with our budget. Budget was always our problem. We often didn't have enough money to buy illustrator supplies and sometimes in the photo section we were getting short but I think we've improved on this and we're getting more money right now.

Henn reflected that he actually waited a year-and-a-half before starting to work for the military and he has no regrets about it in spite of an initial wage cut when leaving his job as a bookkeeper at Autohaus Simon in Baumholder. "I like this organization and I really enjoy working here," he said. With almost 22 years of customer service to his name, it's difficult to dispute his claim.

Retirees receive health care update

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
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Those who served were recently on the receiving end as a host of health and medical providers came together recently to present a Retiree Appreciation Day at the Baumholder Health Clinic May 14.

"This gives the community an opportunity to show their appreciation to the retirees for the many years of services they provided our country," said Bill Kalavsky, Baumholder's retirement services officer.

The Baumholder Retiree Council and the Baumholder Health Clinic in conjunction with Landstuhl Regional Medical Center sponsored the event May 14. which saw 40 retirees and spouses turn out and take advantage of the services and presentations offered. "Baumholder has 80 retirees registered in the area so a 50 percent turnout is substantial," said Kalavsky.

There were classes on nutrition education, TRICARE Plus, benefits, health evaluation assessment report forms, enrollment, TRICARE Online, physical exams, wellness issues, requirements/frequencies, scheduling appointments and using your primary care manager (PCM) effectively.

Side tables offered blood pressure checks, glaucoma exams, foot pressure evaluations and educational pamphlets.

"This is a great opportunity not to just meet you but also to let you meet us and provide some health information too.

"We realize retirees are valuable to us because those of us wearing the green suit are going to be retired eventually and the fact that you served in the military, served our nation, it makes us proud to wear the uniform as it made you proud during your day. And hopefully we demonstrate that every time you came and see us with a smile, a friendly attitude," said Lt. Col. Jack Trowbridge, Baumholder Health



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
Blood pressure checks like this one were just one of the several services offered to retirees and family members.

Clinic commander.

"It's incredibly important for us to stay connected to you because quite honestly, if we don't stay connected to you, how do we know

if we're providing you what we need to provide to you?" said Col. David Rubenstein, Landstuhl Regional Medical Health Center commander.

Rubenstein told those present

all about the medical services available in Landstuhl and Baumholder to retirees. He explained that eight geographically disbursed clinics, Baumholder being one of these, provide medical services to all Americans living and working throughout Europe.

Speaking about Baumholder Rubenstein said "This is my second busiest clinic that is not located at Landstuhl."

Alluding to the fact that retirees are an integral part of the clinic's medical charge, Rubenstein pointed out Landstuhl's mission statement which is "To serve as America's beacon of health care for its sons and daughters abroad." He said retirees are definitely America's sons and daughters and Landstuhl Regional Medical Center has an obligation to look after their medical needs.

Kalavsky explained that this program gave retirees the opportunity to obtain information on the changing benefits for retirees living overseas.

Science camp launches student interest

Story and photos by
Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
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One by one the rockets were fueled, lowered gently onto the launching platforms and electrical ignition wires attached. Counted downs commenced, ignition buttons were pressed and the missiles jetted into the sky amidst a trail of sulfur-scented smoke.

This was no military operation but rather fifth and sixth grade students from Smith Elementary School participating in an extracurricular session of science camp. Janet Kennedy, sixth grade teacher at Smith Elementary School put the four-week course together for the 14 students that enrolled. "We do science experiments and given activities. This camp was offered because we had so many students that had taken the first one who wanted to do something else," she said. Rockets were introduced into the course as a practical and entertaining way of teaching students about lift and thrust, aerodynamics, the safety involved and some of Newton's laws of motion.

The students initially began constructing their own rockets but the intricacy involved did not allow the students to finish their projects in the four short weeks of science

camp. "If we were going to do this again and include the building portion, we would probably have to extend it to five weeks because it wasn't long enough. The building of the rocket, the one they built in class, they build in groups and it's much more tedious and a little more intricate," said Kennedy. What the students actually launched were rockets purchased from the local exchange. The students will finish the rockets they started but they probably won't be launched during this school year, explained Kennedy.

Usually science camp is free for students who wish to enroll but Kennedy explained "It would be tough to teach this in a normal class because of the expense. Each rocket costs \$30 and each engine costs \$9. That's pretty costly, so we were glad that the parents were able to fund it and you can see how exciting it is," said Kennedy as she motioned to a group of students installing engines in their rockets under the watchful eye of Mr. Rose, Smith Elementary School principle and another teacher.

Science camp started on a trial basis last year at Smith Elementary

School and was expanded this year since it was well received by the students. "We opened to all the grade levels and it was very successful in the lower grades. They just love it," said Kennedy. In the upper grades, some of the students were a little skeptical about participating in something that involved "learning" so the rocket session was introduced. "That's the primary reason for having this summer camp, to show them it's not just a learning format or arena. It's a whole lot of excitement and fun and enjoying the learning with it," said Kennedy.

"I was always interested in rockets and I figured I could learn more about them here," said Justin McCormick, a 12-year-old sixth grader participating in the camp. "We launched a rocket with an A engine and a rocket with a C engine today," he said. "We learned about the different parts of the rocket and how the shape of the rocket can help its flight and how it can prevent drag. We also learned about how you can get more power into it so it will go higher and how to build

and pack a rocket," he said.

"I would enjoy doing this again," he said. "I've got some A engines and I'm planning on launching it off again pretty soon."

Of course, the young rocketeer will have to practice his hobby under close adult supervision. Additionally, those interested in rocketry should know that it is illegal to launch or ignite rockets or fireworks on post or anywhere in Germany without first obtaining permission.

Amber Hinson, another 12-year-old sixth grader in the camp offered her views on the camp. "We were basically launching off rockets with different types of engines to see the way the engines affect the height the rocket reaches," she said. "I thought it was fun and it was interesting too. I learned a lot." She said building the rocket was interesting "but the launching was even better."

Students were not the only ones who enjoyed the camp. "I was interested in rockets as a kid and just had a great time with it. There was a lot

of good childhood memories so I really enjoyed it a lot," said Scott Finley, another Smith Elementary School teacher participating in the science camp program. "I wanted to do a rocketry club and just didn't have the takers so my wife Erica (a kindergarten teacher), who usually does this, volunteered me to participate in it so we just switched places for a session and I did this one," he said.

The rain and often launch-hindering wind conditions did not dampen the spirits of students and teachers alike as one rocket after another sailed into the sky. The launches took place on Iron Soldiers Field and ironically, to allow for the drift of the rocket after the parachute deployed, the prevailing wind forced the teachers to aim the rockets slightly in the direction of the 1st Armored Division Artillery headquarters. No one at DIVARTY headquarters, though, detected any incoming fire.



Sixth-grader, Amber Hinson, sends her rocket skyward.

MWR update

Outdoor Recreation is going shopping in the Czech Republic June 1. The trip departs May 31 at 11 a.m. and returns at 1 a.m. June 2. The cost is \$59. Call mil 485-7182 to reserve your space.

Mystery bowl comes to Baumholder's Bowling Center. Starting June 1 and running all summer persons can enter this contest.

Win prizes and get clues to guess the mystery trip. The first person to guess the location wins the trip. Call mil 485-6569 for more information.

The Rod and Gun Club will host its annual country cookout June 15 beginning at 5 p.m.

There will be plenty of food and a mechanical bull. Come enjoy the

fun or call mil 485-6345 for more information.

The community and unit level softball tournament is scheduled July 4-5. Teams must sign up by June 25.

The first six teams from each category that pay the fee will be entered in the tournament. Call mil 485-7176 for more information.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
Lt. Col. Eric Wagenaar, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, ceremoniously sets the neighborhood awareness program in concrete.

SNAP kicks off

The Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program was officially launched May 15 when Lt. Col. Eric Wagenaar, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, ceremoniously set the sign pole in concrete for Baumholder's new Neighborhood Watch program. The 222nd BSB commander chose a playground in the Smith housing area for the first sign to signify that the program is about neighbors looking out for each other's welfare.

The SNAP program is a "neighborhood watch" program that was developed by the USAREUR Office of the Provost Marshal for implementation in all USAREUR communities. The program is based on the theory that if you know your neighbors, and they know you, you can be more alert to suspicious activities in your neighborhood.

The program will supplement the Force Protection efforts already taking place in Baumholder to include the Quick Reactionary Force, Ponds Security and soldiers on the

gates.

It is a comprehensive effort that includes trainers, volunteers, and facilitators who will work in our military community to increase force protection and crime prevention situational awareness. This volunteer-based program includes awareness campaigns delivered through the 222nd BSB Townhall meetings, monthly LINKS meetings, ACS Newcomer Orientation Welcome (NOW Program), and Inprocessing Training Center (ITC) briefings. A central feature of the program involves training community resident volunteers in how to observe and report suspicious activity through established reporting chains. SNAP will not promote intervention and will not place the volunteers in jeopardy. However, SNAP will be conducted in close coordination with the 222nd BSB Provost Marshals Office and force protection officials. You can sign up as a volunteer on the Baumholder web page at <http://www.222bsb.baumholder.army.mil>.

Legal center celebrates Law Day

By Maj John B. Jones, Jr.
OIC, Baumholder Legal Center

Law Day has come and gone. During the last week of April and into the first week of May, the Baumholder Legal Center, along with Staff Judge Advocate offices and other legal institutions worldwide, celebrated Law Day with their respective local communities.

In the late 1950's, the American Bar Association instituted May 1 as Law Day to draw attention to both the principles and practice of law and justice.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower established Law Day by proclamation in 1958.

Law Day provides an opportunity to reflect on our legal heritage, on the

role of law, and on the rights and duties that are the foundation of peace and prosperity for all.

The importance of the rule of law and the equality of justice is no less significant in the military society, where judge advocates support the command and represent soldiers on a variety of legal issues.

In recognition of the principles embodied in Law Day, the 1st Armored Division Office of the Staff Judge Advocate held numerous events throughout the 1st AD area.

In Wiesbaden, the OSJA held a mock trial (a court-martial demonstration), in which a number of local and regional prosecutors, attorneys, and judges were invited to attend. Locally, the Baumholder Legal Center observed Law Day by presenting a number of

classes to junior and high school students. Additionally, the Baumholder Legal Center sponsored an essay contest.

Law Day enjoys a storied past and has received recognition and endorsement at the highest levels of our government; annually, the President of the United States provides a proclamation in support of Law Day.

Furthermore, the Law Day experience is not only confined to the United States; Canada celebrates its Law Day in late April.

Although May 1 remains the officially recognized date, Law Day often becomes Law Week as national organizations, state and local bar associations, businesses, and schools, conduct extensive programs on the rule of law in our constitutional democracy.

Soldiers sentenced for misconduct

Pvt. Paul M. Vaneizenga, A Company, 2-6 Infantry Battalion, was tried by a Summary Court-Martial at Baumholder April 24. Vaneizenga was found guilty of one count of disrespect to a commissioned officer, one count of insubordinate conduct to a noncommissioned officer and one count of incapacitation due to the indulgence of intoxicating liquors. He was reduced to private, forfeited \$737 and confined for five days.

Pfc. Christina Lee, Headquarters and Headquarters Company,

40th Engineers, was tried by a Special Court-Martial empowered to adjudge a bad-conduct discharge, at Mannheim, Germany on May 1. Lee was found guilty on three counts of larceny of government property, one count of larceny of private property, and two counts of false official statement. On May 7 at Baumholder, she received a sentence of reduction to private, forfeiture of \$550 per month for three months, a bad-conduct discharge, and confinement for three months. She is serving her sentence in the

Mannheim Confinement Facility.

Sgt. Theodore J. Davis, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-35 Armor, was tried by a General Court-Martial in Baumholder on May 7. Davis was found guilty of one count of receiving child pornography and one count of possessing child pornography. He received a sentence of reduction to private, confinement for 18 months and a bad-conduct discharge. He is currently serving his sentence in the Mannheim Confinement Facility.